

- 91 -

29 A composition according to claim 28 which contains the gellant in an amount selected in the range of from 0.1 to 20% and particularly from 0.5 to 15% by weight of its combined weight with the water-immiscible liquid.

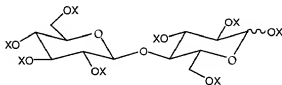
5

30 A composition according to claim 28 in which said acylated cellobiose CHME represents a major fraction of the gellant.

10 31 A composition according to claim 28 in which said CHME ester is a cellobiose heptanonanoate monocyclohexanoate ester.

15 32 A composition according to claim 28 in which said acylated cellobiose CHME is employed in conjunction with a gellant (ACB) that is represented by the formula:

33



20

in which X represents an acyl group (R-CO-) or H, being not more than a minority of X residues and R represents a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched chain hydrocarbon residue containing from 5 to 31 carbon atoms.

25

- 92 -

34 A composition according to claim 32 in which said acylated cellobiose CHME is employed in a weight ratio to said ACB of from 25:1 to 1:25, preferably from 1:1 to 1:12.

5

35 A composition according to claim 32 in which said CHME and said ACB are present in a weight ratio in the range of from 15:85 to 35:65.

10 36 A composition according to claim 32 in which the CHME comprises cellobiose heptadecanoate mono benzoate and the ACB comprises cellobiose octadecanoate.

15 37 A composition according to claim 35 in which the CHME is at least 90 molar% β anomer and the ACB is at least 80 molar% α anomer.

20 38 A composition according to claim 28 which additionally contains one or more active agents selected from skin benefit agents, personal care agents, medicaments, sunscreen or tanning aid.

25 39 A composition according to claim 37 in which the active agent is dissolved or suspended in the water-immiscible liquid.

